<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and

listings of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

1-11. Canceled.

12. (Currently Amended) A database processing method

used in a database management system wherein a user inquiry

about contents of a database made by the user is analyzed, an

execution plan is generated in accordance with results of

analyzing said user inquiry and database processing is

executed in accordance with said execution plan, said method

comprising:

cataloging information on the correspondence between

a SQL user-defined function, calling parameters, a format of

execution results and an external routine name, said format of

execution results being used to determine whether to consider

each of table data or to consider a set of table data in order

to estimate said SQL user-defined function, said external

routine name being designated for implementing said SQL user-

defined function, said external routine being implemented as

an executable code;   ,

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determining either a procedure for executing said

related external routine for each piece of desired data

composing said database or a procedure for acquiring a set of

results by execution of said related external routine in

accordance with said information on said format of execution

results; and

storing the determined result in an execution plan

in accordance with said cataloged information when analyzing

the inquiry containing said SQL user-defined function.

13. (Previously Presented) A database processing method

of claim 12, wherein said format of execution results

corresponds to the functional evaluation in which an index is

not used and the indexed evaluation in which an index is used.

14. (Previously Presented) A database processing method

of claim 12, wherein said calling parameters contain SQL data

types.

15. (Previously Presented) A database processing method

used in a database management system wherein a user inquiry

about contents of a database made by the user is analyzed, an

execution plan is generated in accordance with results of

analyzing said user inquiry and database processing is

executed in accordance with said execution plan, said method

comprising:

cataloging information on calling triggers of

external routines each implementing an operation of a user-

defined data type in said database management system when the

user defines said user-defined data type;

adding information of an external routine to be

called on relevant module calling triggers obtained from said

information on module calling triggers of said external

routine to said execution plan when said user inquiry made by

the user is analyzed and said execution plan is generated; and

executing said external routine on said relevant

module calling triggers specified in said information on

external routine added to said execution plan when database

processing is executed in accordance with said execution plan.

16.   (New)   A database processing method of claim 15,

wherein the calling triggers include the timing of commit

processing.